

THE
TRADES

Increase.

LONDON,

Printed by *Nicholas Okes*, and are
to be sold by *Walter Burre*.

1615.

THE

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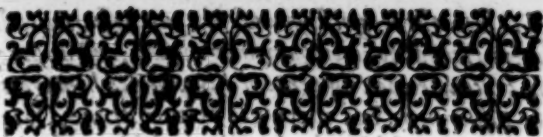
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increased

LOAN DO NOT

Printed by Nicholas O'Keefe and
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1917



To the Reader.



Entle Reader, I commend vnto you a Polidorus his Treasure; yet without either murther or theft, but else as rich. So I confesse without leane, neith: r may the Authour bee offended, if what I haue borrowed for my private vse, I haue payed to the service of the Common-wealth, in that what hee intended at the instance of one, being written, is be-houefull to euery one.

One Pithius, a crafty Sicilian, finding an honest Romane Gentleman, called Canius, Desirous of a pleasant Garden in the Iland, he inuited him to his, and conducted diuers poore Fishermen to attend that day his Bankes, with Boates and Nets; and to bring in plenty of fisb, and to lay them at his feete. The Guest asking what that meant, was answered by the Huxer, That it was the Royalty of that place, there was more fisb thereabouts, then in any other streame of Syracuse. And as oft as he repaired thither, that seruice was due, and done vnto him. The poore Gentleman was taken with the Nets, and presently dealeth with the owner for the Garden; who suffering himselfe to be much importuned, at the length was intreated to sell it full deerly: The day following, the buyer, dispa-

sed to shew the magnificence of his purchase, inuited
diuers friends to accompany him thither, and missing
the concourse and confluence of his expected homagers,
the Fishermen (For there was neither Boate, Oare,
Net, or Fin of fish to be seene) asketh his new neigh-
bours whether it were a holiday for Fishermen? The
plaine folk answered, None they knew of; & further
wondered at the former resort, for they neuer saw be-
fore Boates or Fishermen there. In a word, hee was co-
fused. But it is not so in this fishing Proiect, to the
which you are now inuited frankly and plainly:
Nullæ hic piscatorum feræ; we may alwaies fish here
without feare of any Sicilian purchase, or scarcity
of the Romane Macrobius his Table, where there was
Piscis, but paucorū hominum. Here is fish, the King
of fish, the meate and Marchandize of both remote
and neighbour Nations. To perswade hereto, the Au-
thour hath dealt by way of comparison, not there-
by to derogate from other Trades, but to aduancee this
Mysterie, and indeed, to shew that they may all receive
true nourishment from this nursery. Let therefore no
man take that with the left hand which is offered
with the right. And though, by the opinion of some of
vnderstanding in those faculties, there is a reasonable
survey giuen of our Sea-trades, State, and Breeding;
and out of others iudgements, there is euen Candor
animi in all particulars, without either suspicion of
any personall taxation offered, or any States blot sus-
pected: Yet I desire also to professe the Authours true
and faire meaning herein, and to make good the over-
sights that may bee committed in the particular tra-
uerse, with that of the Poet, Vbi plurima nitent, Non
ego

ego paucis offendor maculis. Of the subiect it
 selfe I will onely say thus much, That if Aurum por-
 tans hath beene alwaies welcome, hence you may
 receiue gold, pay the Kings duties, and doe your Coun-
 trey seruice; and so I leaue these busineses to their own
 abilities, and take my leaue of you with this conclusion
 of them.

Nisi peracta luduntur.

L. R.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the above matter. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, very truly,
 J. M. Smith

[illegible]



The Trades Increase.

BEING by chance a late
Treatise, entitled *Englands
way to winne wealth, &c.* and
being easily invited to reade
the same, even for the Titles
sake, I must confesse my selfe
so affected with the proiect,
that I presently resolved to
goe a fishing, withall concluding with my selfe,
That as there is no fishing to the Sea, so there was
no fish in the Sea like to the Herring. And for that
my estate is but meane, and my selfe a fresh-water
souldier, it requireth cost, and I would haue com-
pany: the Sea is large, and hath roome enough
for vs all, and there are Herrings enow to make
vs all rich: for that I say a man may runne a course
this way to enrich himselfe, to strengthen his
country, to enable his Prince more honestly then
many late Sea-courses can warrant vs in, more ea-
sily, more safely, more certainly then any other

sea-course can perswade vs to whatsoeuer; I could not choose, out of my allegiance to my Prince, out of my duty to my Countrey, out of my loue to my neighbour, but commend these motiues concerning the same to a further consideration, consisting

In the { Necessitie,
Facilitie,
Profit, and } offishing.
Vse }

The necessity out of want of { Shipping.
Mariners.
Emploiment of men.

As concerning ships, it is that which every one knoweth, and can say, they are our weapons, they are our ornaments, they are our strength, they are our pleasures, they are our defence, they are our profit; the subiect by them is made rich, the kingdome through them strong, the Prince in them mighty; in a word, by them in a manner we liue, the kingdome is, the king reigneth. If the sea faile, the *Venetians* they fall; and if we want ships, wee are dissolued. *Esops* Sheepeheard kept his flocke well so long as he nourished his dogge; but when the Wolfe had perswaded him that he was superfluous, hee cosened him easily of all his sheepe. It is the kingdomes case in shipping, which made that heroicall King of *Denmarke* at his view of the Kings maiesties Nauy at *Chattam*, confesse he then saw the strength of *England*, the greatnesse of our King,

King, *In sola tanta est fiducia Nave.*

Concerning the want of shipping, though to ^{Want of ship-} presse the consideration thereof be very material, ping.
yet the poynt it selfe is to be handled very tenderly: for that as I haue no pleasure to touch our owne wounds, so I am loath in this case to discover our owne wants; for that I feare the enemy will sooner take the aduanrage of them, then wee will be stirred vp thereby to make supply. To giue therefore the true and faithfull subiect a darke Lanthorne whereby hee may onely see himselfe, and he not be seene, setting the contemplation of the Kings royall Nauy aside, so mighty, so well conditioned, which hath so many good Officers, and such worthy Over-seers, which is so chargeable to his Maiestie to maintaine, as I hope it will neuer be safe for the enemy to meddle withall: setting, I say, this aside, our Merchants Nauie consisteth in the Shippes

The Straights.
Spaine.
France.
Hambrough and Middlebrough.
For The Sound.
Newcastle.
Island.
New found Land.
The East Indies.

I haue not named *Mesconie*, because we haue in a manner lost that Trade, the troubles of that

The countrey
being afflicted
with warre &
the *Hollanders*
will petere ci-
bum e flamma.

kingdome, and our desire of security, having de-
prived vs therof, which we may the more lament,
because I haue heard Marchants affirme, that in
these vncomfortable dayes of aduenturing, it was
one of the best Trades, and with no small maruell
yet vpheld, and most prouidently followed by the
Hollanders, wee being scared away from so good
and profitable a trade, as Birds from Cherry-trees
with the shew of dead carkases, or shout of boies,
whilest other lusty and plumpe laddes haue wilily
beate away the children, beate downe the scarre-
crowes, and stolne the fruit away, to their great
gaine, and our disgrace, there repairing not thi-
ther about two ships English in stead of seuen-
teene of great burden for the company formerly,
besides Enterlopers, to the great decay of our
Merchants and shipping: whereas the *Hollander*
(according to a credible report made) betweene
the Ward-house and the Eastward, at *Tispense*,
Kilden, *Olena*, and the riuer of *Cole* and *Colmograue*,
and at *Saint Nicholas* in *Russia*, had about thirtie
fiue sailes of their shippes the last yeare. Happily
some will say, that they made so poore a voyage,
that they had better kept themselves at home, and
it is very likely. Yet the yeare before, they had
some thirtie saile, and now this yeare they haue
again repaired their Navy, renewed their aduen-
ture, and sent neere as many, as neyther dismay-
ed with troubles, nor yet discouraged with losse.
And to make it the more strange, that they shou'd
thus preuent our Trade, and increase their owne:
as it was after vs, that they came thither euen by
leane,

leave, as it were, to glean with our Reapers, (for
 the fields were ours) the discovery of the Land,
 and Trade wholly ours, found out by *Chanceler*, *Primo Edw. 6.*
 and *Willoughby*, and euer since continued by our
 Merchants) so againe their best Trade thither, is
 maintained euen by our owne commodities, as
 Tinne, Lead, Course-clothes and Kerseis: the in-
 conuenience whereof, together with the preuen-
 tion, I leave to the sensible consideration; to the
 sufficient ability of the *Moscouie* Marchant, who I
 feare can scarce heare mee, being (as I said) gone
 so farre as the *East-Indies*; and if I should send to
 him, I feare I should not finde him at leasure, ha-
 uing thither transported much of the *Moscouie*
 Staple. For the Marchants that formerly vsed the
Moscouie Trade are now there seated; and because
 as we know it is warmer there, and as they find it,
 it is very profitable, we will also by Compage tra-
 uell thither our selues; that as *Valeria* a faire La-
 dy, answering to *Scilla* in the Theater, being de-
 manded, Why shee pressed so neere, said; That
 thereby shee might haue some of his felicity; so
 by being in their company, wee may communi-
 cate with them of their good fortunes, or com-
 mune with them of our wants.

So then, to beginne our iourney at the noblest *The Straights.*
 place for worth, and one of the newest in know-
 ledge, the worthiest in former remembrance, the
 worst in present reputation, for the bottome of
 the *Straights*, the first in name, and whilome a
 very materiall busines of Marchandize: I do find
 this Trade burlesque, and the difficulties many and

new, the Trade it selfe being lessened by the circumuention of the *East-Indie* navigation, which fetcheth the Spices from the well head; and I find the rest of the benefites alayed, by charges, by insultation of Pirates, and infidelity of seruants. These make presents and profit of their Maisters goods abroad, so farre, that some of the owners become lame at home: Pirates meete with that whereby others are extreemly hindred, and by the charges the rest are exceedingly discouraged, so that the Merchants returne is but poore, and the navigation much lessened, the employment thitherward sayling in neere thirty shippes, & those of such burden, that they were of defence and renowne to the kingdome. I heard a worthy Marchant in his time *Thomas Cordell* of *London* say, that on the first beginning of the *Turkey Trade*, his selfe with other Merchants, hauing occasion to attend the late *Queens* Maiesties Priuy Councell about that businesse, they had great thanks & commendations for the shippes they then builded of so great a burden for those partes, by the Earles of *Bedford* and *Leicester*, and other honorable Personages, with many encouragements to goe forward (euen to vse their owne words) for the *Kingdomes sake*, notwithstanding it was then to their great benefite likewise, whose ordinarie returnes at the first were three for one, which I speake not out of enuy. For as all callings are, and ought to be maintained through the profite that ariseth thereby, labours rewarded, dangers recompenced by the sweat and sweet of gaine; nay,

in our most Liberall Professions, the Diuine for
 his spirituall nourishment hath temporall foode;
 the Physition for the care of the body asketh the
 comfort of the purse; and the Lawyer must bee
 payd for his Plea: so Merchants of all Companies
 the most liberall, are likewise of all sortes the
 most worthie to gaine, *Ut qui per uniuersum or-
 bem discurrunt, mare circumlustrantes & aridam;*
 to vse that hopefull Prince in his time King Ed-
 ward the sixt his words in a Letter to forren Prin-
 ces, in Sir *Hugh Willoughbie* his behalfe. But to
 end my long Parenthesis, I speake it I say out of
 pittie, to see now the returne so meane, the Mer-
 chant so discouraged, the Shipping so dimini-
 shed: and to conelude this poynt without loue
 or anger, but with admiration of our neighbours
 the now *Sea-herrs*, the Nation that get health out
 of their owne sickenesse, whose troubles begot
 their liberty, brought forth their wealth, and
 brought vp their strength, that haue out of our
 leauings gotten themselves a lining, out of our
 wants make their owne supply of Trade and ship-
 ping there; they comming in long after vs, e-
 quall vs in those partes in all respects of privilege
 and port; that haue deuanced vs so farre in ship-
 ping, that the *Hollanders* haue more then one
 hundred saile of shippes that vse those parts, con-
 tinually going and returning, and the chieffest
 matters they doe lade outward, be *Englisb* Com-
 modities, as Tinne, Lead, and Bailes of suchlike
 stuffe as are made at *Norwich*.

For the rest of the Straights, one side, as the
 coast

Being bound
 for discou-
 ries 1. Ed. 6.

See herrens.

coast of *Barbary*, serues onely for places and Cit-
ties of refuge, not after the Diuine *Leuiticall* law,
when one hath killed a man by chance there to be
sustoured; but after that diabolicall *Alcoran*, when
any haue robbed and murdered abroad, thither
they may repaire, be in safety, and enioy.

The other side, as *Naples*, *Genoa*, *Ligorne*, and
Marseilles, employ some twenty saile, and they
most with Herring. For the Ports neere to the
Straights mouth, as *Malega*, &c. wee haue some
store of shipping, as about thirtie saile, that begin
in Iune to set forth some for *Ireland*, to lade Pipe-
staves in their way to *Malega*, they returning *Ma-
lega* wines. But the *Hollanders* likewise haue found
out that Trade, and be as busie amongst the Irish
as our selues for Pipe-staves: nay, by your leaue,
they haue beene too busie there of late with some
of our poore Country-mens wind-pipes; but that
is besides the matter beere. But for *Malega* it selfe,
the Inhabitants there haue through our plentifull
resort thither, planted more store of Vines, so that
on our recourse thither, our marchants haue with-
drawne themselves much from *Cherris*.

For *Andalusia*, *Quantado*, *Lisborne*, *Portugall*, it
is easily knowne what shipping wee haue there by
our Trade, which is but meane, consisting in
Sacke, Sugar, Fruit, and *west-Indie* Drags, which
may employ some twenty ships. Amongst these
Cherris Sackes are likewise brought into *England*,
especially in *Flemish* Bottomes.

For the bringing in from thence any store of
salt by vs, it is excepted against, we being by report
furnished

furnished principally by the *Hollanders* of most of the salt that our Fisher Townes do vse for the salting of Island fish, and all other Fish for Herring and Staple-fish, as the Ports of *London, Calchester, Ipswich, Tarmouth, Linne, Hull, Seabrough*, can testifie. *Albrough* men were wont to bring it in, especially employing some thirty or forty Saile belonging to it, of some seuen or eight score, or two hundred Tonne; which for the most part, were set on worke all the yeare long, with transporting of coales from *Newcastle* to *France*, and fetching salt from thence; which Trade is now much decayed with *France*, by the double diligence of the *Hollanders*, who serue vs principally from *Spaine*.

For our Trade to *Burdeaux*, it is lightly as great *France*, as euer it was: For I do not thinke there was euer more Wine drunke in the Land. Yet that voyage appeareth not to be so beneficiall in regard of the small rate that the Owners and Sea-men haue thither-ward. *France* may euery way employ, and those most small vessels, some threescore ships and barkes.

To *Hambrough* and *Middlebrough* there are be- *Hambrough & Middlebrough* longing six or seuen ships to each place, and they trade for the Company (and are called *Appointed Ships*) euery three months in all the yeare, there may be laden some thirty odde Shippes, and they but 14 or 15 bodily. But as they make, as is said, two voyages the Ship, how it standeth with them, or how they will stand, it is vncertaine in regard of the manner of the altering of Trading with their cloath. Once for certaine the Merchant
C aduenturers.

aduenturers ships haue been alwaies formerly the
sure stay of Merchants seruices both for their rea-
dinesse, goodnesse, and number of shipping, tou-
ching the common wealths affaires.

the Sould.

For *Danike, Melwin* and *Quinsbraugh*, there are
not aboue five or sixe shippes of *London*, that vsu-
ally those places, as many more of *Ipswich*, and so like,
wise from *Hull, Linne*, and *Newcastle*, the like pro-
portion resorteth thither for Trade. These make
some two retournes in the yeare: but in all those
places the *Hollanders* doe abound; and bring in
more commodities by five times to vs, then our
owne shipping. And for *Lisland*, the *Narue, Rye*,
and *Renell*, the *Hollanders* haue all the Trade in a
manner; the commodities from these former pla-
ces being Corne, Flaxe, Sope-ashes, Hempe, I-
ron, Waxe, and all sorts of Deale.

For *Norway* we haue not aboue five; and they
aboue forty saile, and those double or treble our
burden euen for the City.

Newcastle.

The next is *Newcastle* Trade, and for certaine
the chiefest now in esse, for maintenance of ship-
ping; for setting Sea-fearing men on worke, and
for breeding daily more, there may be about some
two hundred saile of *Caryles*, that onely vs, to
serue the City of *London*, besides some two hun-
dred more that serue the sea-coast towns through-
out *England*, small and great, as *Barques* and o-
ther shipping of smaller burden, and more might
easily be: for thither euen to the *Mines* mouth,
come all our Neighbour Country Nations with
their Shippes continually, employing their owne
shipping

Shipping and Mariners. I doubt me whether if
 they had such a treasure they would not imploy
 their owne shipping. The *French* saile higher in
 whole Fleets, some forty or fifty saile together,
 especially in Summer, forming all their Portes of
Prussia, *Monowade*, and *England*; cut as farre as
Rosbe and *Wardens*, with theirowne shippes and
 sailers from *Newcastle*. So they of *Breame*, *Embr-*
den, *Holland* and *Zealand* doe send all *Flauanders*,
 and the *Archdukes* Countreys, wher shipping is
 not great. These paying no more than his Maie-
 ties owne naturall subiects, if they transport any
 coales. Which imposition by our men made our
 Countrey men forbear their carrying any more
 Coales abroad, because the *Frenchmen* would not
 giue about their old rates, and which was worse,
 thereby they sold away their shippes, some to
France, some to *Spain*, some to other Countreys.
 Wherby sure their fault was more apparant then
 their ill fortune; in that though their gaine was
 lesse at the instant, by the imposition then made, yet
 they yet to leave the Trade, argued rather good spi-
 rites, than great malice, wanting y^e not any speciall
 good minde to their Countrey. For whence I
 pray you came such a necessity to leave the Trade
 and to give over their shipping, as if they could not
 live thereby, when presently forraigne Nations
 sell by the Trade themselves, and is formerly set
 downe, and fetch away our coales on the same
 termes which wee doe refuse. And by report, not
 without some true billings imposed, the
Frenchmen sell in *France* one Chauldrone of coales

for as much money as will buy three or foure of *Newcastle*. Had they held to with patience, either they might haue brought the stranger to their price, or else by due order and discreet fashion opened the inconueniency to the state, of the strangers stomack in refusing their Coale, and fetching them their selues: so as they might easily haue wearied them, and won their Trade and gaine againe; whereas now they are beggard, our Country disfurnisht of shipping. The stranger keeping his coine at home, bringeth hither bare and bare commodities, their shipping & Mariners are employed and increased; and notwithstanding the *Argus* eyes of the Searcher, carry gold away with them, alwaies bringing more in stocke with them, then they carry away in commodities.

For to make a motion to haue this five shillings excused in our owne Nation, is rather profitable then necessary, in regard we see the stranger thriveth notwithstanding it, and it being done out of his Maiesties royal prerogative, *or ex causa Imperii*, as is apparant by what the stranger gaineth, and the like is willingly imbraced here in other transportations, as Beere, &c. were, methinkes, vndutifull likewise. But to mention a motion very lately made, and generally amongst his Maiesties loyall subiects imbraced, Might it please his Maiesty to make and ordaine a Staple Towne in *England* for Sea-coale, and we haue many fit places, and Harbours more neere and proper then that of *Tinmouth*, at *Newcastle* (and herein as I am bound in affection to wish well to *London*, so I must, out
of

15
of many mens iudgements, commend *Hatwich*,
statio bene fida Carinis, and then lying fit for the
Low-countries, and indeed open to all Nations
by the benefite of the large sea which washeth it)
whereby strangers shall be restrained from further
Trade to *Newcastle*, and shall all repaire to the said
Staple Towne to fetch their Coales: Besides that
it would be an exceeding benefite to his Maiesty,
it would likewise helpe vs in this our complaint of
want of shipping. For by this meanes our *English*
bottomes bringing all the Coales to the Staple
Towne, shall not onely be set on worke, but in-
crease will follow in Shipping. The *Venetians*
sometime passed being out-gone by those of *Zant*
in their custome, drew the Trade from the *Greci-
ans*, and planted as it were, a Colonie of Curranes
at *Venice*. If for a little custome, and to pull downe
their suspected subiects swelling mindes, they did
so, why should not his Maiesty for the increase of
his Shipping, and the releiuing of the prostrate
estate of his faithfull and humble subiects, take
this warrantable course?

Island voyage entertaineth 120 ships and barkes.
New found Land employeth some 150 saile, from
all parts, of small ships, but with great hazard; and
therefore that voyage, feared to be spoiled by hea-
then and sauage, as also by Pirates.

Now followeth the consideration of the East *East Indies*,
Indie Trade, into whose seas, not onely the Riuer
of *Palga*, as before you heard, disembouqueth it self,
but even the bottome of the *Straights* is emptied
to fill vp those gulfs, and not so onely, but besides

that many of our best Marchants haue transported
their Staples thither; it hath also begot out of all
Callings, Professions, and Trades, many more
new Merchants. Then where there is increase of
Merchants, there is increase of Trade, where Trade
increaseth, there is increase of Shipping, where in-
crease of Shipping, there increase of Mariners
likewise: so then rich and large *East Indies*. The
report that went of the pleasing notes of the
Swannes in *Meander* flood, farre surpassing the re-
cords of any other birds in any other places what-
soeuer, drew thither all sorts of people in great
confluence, and with great expectation to heare,
and enioy their sweete singing. When they came
thither, they found in stead of faire white Swans,
greedy Ravens, and deuouring Crows; and
heard, in stead of melodious harmony, vnuen-
able and loathsome croaking. In indignation that
they were so receiued and deteined, in stead of
applauding, they hissed, and of staying, fled
away. You are now brate *East Indies*, *Meander*
flood, your Trade is the singing of Swannes, which
so many iourneys so fairs to enioy. God forbid
you should be found so discoloured, and we so ill
satisfied. And howsoeuer that I may be sure to
auoid any Heretickon, whereby my nature might
haue any imputation, or by calling up more spi-
rits into the circle then I can pur downe againe, I
might incurre some danger, and be taxed likewise
of indiscretion, for that we onely hitherto haue
complained of the want of Shipping, we desire
now but leten to suruey the State, and see how
you

you helpe the increase. You haue built more Ships
in your time, and greater farre then any other
Merchants Ships, besides what you haue bought
out of other Trades, and all those wholly belong-
ing to you, there hath beene entertained by you
since you first aduentured, one and twentie
Ships, besides the now intended voyage of one
new Ship of seven hundred Tunne, and happily
some two more of increase. The least of all your
Shipping is of fourescore Tunne: all the rest are
goodly Shippes, of such burthen as neuer were
formerly vsed in Merchandize; the least and mea-
nest of these last is of some hundred and twentie
Tunne, and so go vpward euen to eleuen hundred
Tunne. You haue set forth some thirteen voyages,
in which time you haue built of these, eight new
Shippes; and almost as good as built the most of
the residue, as the *Dragon*, the *Hector*, &c. so that at
the first appearance you haue added both strength
and glory to the Kingdome by this your accession
to the Navy. But where I pray you are all these
Ships? foure of these are cast away, of the which
one was of three hundred Tunne, another of foure
hundred, the third of three hundred, and the
fourth of eleuen hundred; two more are docked
vp there as Pinaces to Trade vp and down: the rest
are either employed in the Trade in the *Indies*, or
at home out of reparations; which if true, if the
Kingdome should haue need of them on any oc-
casion, it shall surely want their seruice; and so then
there is not onely no supply to the Navy this way,
but hurt euen to the whole kingdome, the wonds
being

being cut downe, and the Shippes either lost, or
not seruiceable. Surely stories can shew vs; which
we may reade in the courses of Common-weales;
how tolerable, nay how laudable it is in all States,
to enlarge Commerce. Merchants whom wee
should respect, can tell vs of the casualties which
not onely the Ships, but their estates are subiect
to by aduentures. Mariners whom we must pit-
ty, can teach vs of the ordinary dangers not onely
that Shippes and goods, but their liues are subiect
to by sea. I must not then exprobrate that to them
which is to be imputed to the Sea; nor are they to
be blamed out of reason for that which deserueth,
in humanity, commiseration; nor is England
bounded by our Horizon, to go no further then
we see. We haue learned long since, that *Mercatu-
ra sit enuis sordida, si magna splendida*: the stranger
the Country, the greater the aduenture; the more
famous our Nation, the more worthy the Mer-
chant. Before wee were, euen *Horace* writ, *Currit
Mercator ad Indos*. Loath then am I to borrow that
saying of *Demosthenes* on his courting of *Lais*, to
pay it to the *Indian Trade*, by alleaging, that *Non
danti Emam penitentiam*, only hauing now in com-
mon that *Roman* promise, *Ne quid detrimenti resp-
capiat*. Let vs examine that which may moue pa-
tience, that our woods are cut downe, and the
Ships either lost or not seruiceable; Our woods
I say, cut downe in extraordinary manner, nei-
ther do the Shippes die the ordinary death of
Shippes. Our woods extraordinarily cut downe,
in regard of the greatnesse of the Shipping, which
doth

doth as it were deuoure our timber. I am able out of sufficient testimony to affirme, that since the *Indian Trade*, and meerely through their building of their ships of so great burthen, and their repairing (the building notwithstanding beganne but five yeares since) that timber is raised in the Land five shillings, and more, in the load, nay, almost not to be had for money, which the Company (no question) being sensible of, very wisely seeke to helpe themselves in, by building of ships in *Ireland* for their seruice: yet it seemeth their incouragement that was, is but *necessitous* in regard by their owne saying, besides the hazard, the charges are little lesse; and which is worse, that kinde of timber is but vntoward for that vse, being so extreame heauy, that a ship of a small burden draweth much water. If in five yeares space their building, together with their repairing of shippes almost equall to building, beget such a scarcitie, what will a little continuance bring forth? Bring forth I cannot say aught, but a priuation will follow euen of all our timber wood. The Kings Navy must be maintained, other Merchants of lower ranke must haue shipping, and the sea-trade may increase, and then either wee must trade without shipping, or make ships without timber.

When the *Norman Conquerour* hauing subdued the most part of the kingdome, passed from *Essex* into *Kent*, which then made head against him, the *Kents*, hauing by the aduice of their politique Bishop and their stout Abbot, cut downe great boughes, and with them in their armes marched

Logan

D

towards

10
towards the *Conquerour*; whereby, besides the novelty of the sight, the Army appeared double as big. *William* himselfe so conceiuing it, as also amazed to see woods walke; more feared and discontented with that sight, then otherwise assured with his former successe, condescended to what demands soeuer were made by those people, to haue such weapons laid downe, and to gaine such ingenious subiects; whereby, to their eternall benefite, and credite, their persons were neuer in bondage, nor their Lawes altered. In this their Land-stratageme, I see our sea-Arts, in that and these woods being the fatal instrument of our fortunes, boughes of Trees kept the *Kentish-men* out of seruitude, when they held them in their hands, and but for shew; their bodies will keepe vs in liberty when they containe vs, and are for seruice, and by their mouing on the water they will amaze both *French* and *Spanish*, and whomsoever, and keepe them, and all others, from comming neere vs: Out of which prouident fore-sight, our most worthy Princes formerly raigning, haue made diuers Lawes in fauour of timber trees: and our most noble King hath prouided therto with new accessions for the preseruing and increasing of them; but that a parricide of woods should thus be committed by building of ships, it was neuer thought on by any of our royall *Solons*, and therefore there was no prouiso for it: Nay, this inconuenience was so little suspected, that our sayd famous Princes haue prouided cleane contrary, with great bounty and indulgence, hauing encouraged

35. Hen. 8. 17.
13. Eliz. 25.

Forbidding
by proclamation
the building with
Timber.

17
raged by reward out of their owne purses the builders of great ships; as bestowing on the builders five shillings on the Tun for every Tunne that is builded aboue one hundred Tun in a ship, so necessary did the Prince thinke his maintenance of shipping, the accession thereof consistig much in their greatnesse, to the honour and safety of the Kingdome; & such vse he made account he should haue of them. Whereas now this way he contribureth, to the spoile of his woods, to the losse of the ships, and to the hurt of the Kingdome. I heard a Ship-wright say on the losse of the *Trades Increase*, that if you ride forty miles from about *London*, you could not finde sufficient Timber to build such another. It was a ship of eleuen hundred Tunnes for beauty, burthen, strength, and sufficiency, surpassing all Marchants ships whatsoeuer. But alas! shee was but shewne, out of a cruell destiny shee was ouertaken with an vntimely death in her youth and strength; being deuoured by those Iron wormes of that Country, that pierced her heart, and brake many a mans withall memorable in her misfortune, onely redounding to the Commonwealths losse. For as for the Marchants, though I pitie their aduentures with all my heart, yet in this their part of losse was least; for all their goods were on shore; and she had brought abundance out of the *Ascha* Fleete, which she did both tith and toll: And thanks be to God, they are more then sauers by what is returned from her, and more then that often, by the grace of God, will come from her to the Marchants gaine.

The like vntimely fall had the other three of great burthen, gallant ships, neuer hauing had the fortune to see their native soile againe, or the honour to doe their Countrey any seruice, in respect of all other ships that wander ordinarily to other Countries, therefore I may iustly say that they die not the ordinary death of ships, who commonly haue some rest, and after long seruice die full of yeares, and at home, much of their timber seruing againe to the same vse, besides their yron-wooke, and the rest otherwise seruiceable, and not in this bloody and vnseasonable fashion, rather indeede as coffins full of liue bodies, then otherwise as comfortable shippes. For the rest that liue, they come home so crazed and broken, so maimed and vnmanned, that whereas they went out strong, they returne most feeble: and whereas they were carried forth with Christians, they are brought home with Heathen. What the profits are to the Marchants, for so great an aduenture, I know not. I am sure amends can not easily be made for so great a losse, euen in this point which is our special subiect now, for wast of woods, & spoile of shipping.

Our ships are
faine to take in
the natiues of
the Indian
Countries to
snpply the waies
of our dead
Sea-men to
bring home
their shipper.

And thus wee haue surueyed all the fountaines whence our shipping especially doth flow: which before I shut vp, I remember me of a new Spring in *Greeneland*, that batheth some ships and burdeneth them likewise with her owne natural fraights, with the which the VVhale is so richly loaden withall. This place is but of late frequented so especially, and hath employed this last yeare some foureteene ships, and more would do, but that the

poore Fisher-men, who though they knew the place before, yet being belike afraid of the Whales, are now swallowed vp in the Whales ships.

The Moscou Merchants haue procured an inhibition for all others from fishing there.

I cannot finde any other worthy place of forren anchorage. For the *Bermudas*, wee know not yet what they will doe; and for *Virginia* we know not well what to do with it the present profit of those not employing any store of shipping: and for this other it is yet but *Embryon*: no question a worthie enterprife and of great consequence, much aboue the Marchants leuell & reach. And sure in regard of the great expences they haue beene at, and the poore returne that is made, they are much to be regarded & commended for holding out so long: I could wish, that as many of the Nobility and Gentry of the land haue willingly embarqued themselves in the labour, so the rest of the Subjects might be vrged to help to forme and bring forth this birth, not of an infant, but of a man; nay, of a people, of a kingdom, wherein are many kingdoms. When *Alcmena* was in trauell with *Hercules*, the Poets say *Iupiter* was faine to be Midwife; and sure, as we haue the countenance of our earthly *Iupiter*, so wee are humbly to implore the propitious presence of our heauenly god, toward the perfection of this so great a worke. And so leauing to medle further with what we haue nothing to do, let vs returne to our ships, out of whose entertainements wee may either reioyce at their increase, or by other obseruations preuent their decay: and because we propounded to our selues the necessity of our home-fishing out of the want of

Want of Mari-
ners,

our shipping, we will affirme that by this our superficial view we find a decay thereof, & that out of two reasons; because that in places formerly frequented, our shipping lesseneth, and in places new found, they do not succeed: we have given reasonable probability of these already without any pleasure, & there is no need of repetition, and it will be more apparant in the preferring of this desire of Fishing, out of the examination of the next inducemet thereto, which is *want of Mariners.*

Mariners, they vse the weapons, shippes, they weare the ornaments, shippes, out of them ships, are strength and pleasure: otherwise they are but Pictures, that haue but a shew, or are as carcases bereft of life. It is the good Pilot that bringeth the Shippe to the Hauen: It is the wise Maister that gouerneth the men in the Ship; but without men the Maister cannot gouerne, nor the shippe goe: What is a Leader without an Army, and that of Souldiers? the same reason of Sea-men in a ship; the body must haue life, bloud and flesh: the same are Sea-men to a shippe. *Columbus* found out the new world, *Drake* brought home the hidden treasure in a ship; but they were both prouided well of men, and gouerned well: therefore as Shippes are manned; and as Masters vse their men, so ordinarily their shippes succede. As for this last matter of gouernement, it is besides our busines, wee will leaue that to whom it concerneth. Now then, though wee cannot vse shipping without men, and therefore they must goe together; yet we must consider the one after the other, and ha-
uing

ning looked into the strength of the one, we will view in them the state of the other, in the which wee will not be long, for that the subiect is vnpleasant, and our Tale is halfe tolde already: for the consequence is necessary. As shippes are employed, so men are busied.

For *Moscow*, it is apparant that the shipping thitherward is decayed; so neither Mariners are well employed that way, nor any Sea-men almost bred. The fleet that went ordinarily thitherward entertained three or foure Nouices in a ship, and so bred them vp Sea-men, which might make in the whole happily some foure score men yearly, which was well for their partes. Now then there were some five hundred Mariners and Saylers employed withall: so then this way there is want.

The like reason of the Straights in their proportion, the very bottome of the Straights failing in thirtie shippes, maketh yearly seven hundred Sea-men and Mariners at the least, seeke some other courses which were that way employed, besides the vnder-growth hindred of some hundred and forty sea-men yearly. And but that I am loath to renue our complaints, I would say it were great pittie of this so great an ebbe of our men in these seas, for that besides the voyages were of encouragement euen to the *Frie*, all in generall commonly went and returned in good health, a ship seldome loosing a man in a voyage; nay, I heard a proper Maister of a shippe say, that in eightene yeares, wherein he frequented those parts, he lost

not

44

not two men out of his ship: and whatſoever may
bee imputed to the incontinency of our men, or
the vnwholesomnes of the women in other pla-
ces, ſurely in thoſe parts I heare the common ſort
of women to be as dangerous, and the generality
of our men as idly diſpoſed.

Naples, Ligorne, Marſeilles, and thoſe parts of
the Straights may employ ſome foure hundred
men, and breed of theſe about forty.

Malega employing beſides ſome foure hundred
men, the employment that may come by all other
places in *Spaine* and *Portugall*, not arriving to
foure hundred men, in regard of the pouerty of
the trade, and the ſuperfluity of the commodities,
it being indeede rather entertained becauſe they
will not be idle, otherwiſe then that they are well
buſied, like foode that keepeth life, not elſe main-
taineth ſtrength; yet it hath a pretty myſtery in it,
that though the gaine ſcarce provideth for the
Marchants liuelihooſe, yet the commodities
make the Land merry: and howſoever, I am of the
opinion that the former hoſtile ſtate buſied more
ſea-men then twice the Trade of *Spaine* can nou-
riſh, yet I differ from thoſe that would rather by
reprisall make ſouldiers, then by nourishing
commerce encrease Mariners.

Our ſhipping into *France*, is not ſuch as it hath
beene, but nourſeth many yong men, or rather
ſheweth them the Sea, and may buſie ſome ſeu-
en or eight hundred men.

Hambrough and *Middlebrough* alwayes haue
beene counted the auncient maintainers of Mari-
ners,

ners for the States service on all occasions, being ready at hand, and therefore as we wished well to their Shippes, so wee desire encouragement to the men. There may bee belonging to their employment some foure or fūe hundred Mariners and Sea-men.

Norway and the *Sound*, may breed and employ some foure hundred men, those parts being most frequented, those commodities most brought in by the *Hollanders*.

Newcastle voyage is the next, and if not the onely, yet the especiall Nursery, and Schoole of Sea-men: For, as it is the chiefeft in employment of Sea-men, so it is the gentlest and most open to land-men: They neuer grudging in their smallest vessels to entertaine some two frosh-men, or learners; whereas, to the contrary, in the Shippes that voyage to the South-ward, or otherwise, saire out of the Kingdome, there is no Owner, or Maister, that will ordinarily entertaine any land-man, bee hee neuer so willing, as being bound by their *Charter-partie* to the *Marchants*, as they say, not to carry but sufficient men, and such as know their labour, and can take their turne at the helme, toppe, and yard. It is by great fauour that others slip in, and they very likely; and therefore whereas in former aduentures I allow them the bringing vp of two or three men in a voyage, it is in generall to bee vnderstood, that they were first trained vp, either amongst the *Coliers* in this iourney: or else came out of *Fishermens Boates*, and yet but *Nouices* to those Seas and *Saylors*,

so then this Trade, without all exception, admits of all sorts that neuer see the Sea before: whereby are yeerely bred and employed, out of the great store of ships busied therein, some two or three thousand people. A great comfort to youth, and men that want employment, and a great stay to the Sea state, that shall haue need on all occasions of their helpe. I haue shewed my good will enough, being so priuate, to further their employment; and being so ignorant, I must not bee bolder.

Island entertainment, asketh and nourisheth some two thousand five hundred men; after the number of shipping and barques set downe, and ordinarily employed.

New found Land may breed and employ some fiftene hundred; but seeing what discouragements they haue, what casualties they are subiect to, we may iudge of their incertainty.

Out of the extraordinary number of all people busied in these two former employments; it is no vnecessary obseruation, that in any Trade in particular; our coale excepted, our speciall employment, nourishment, and encrease of Sea-men, is euen this in forraine fishing, which I hope will proue but petty, when it commeth to be balanced with our home fishing.

The last Consistance of Shipping propounded, was that of the *East Indies*: which though yongest, was found in shew and state to haue ouer-topped all the rest; as a bird that maketh her selfe gay with the feathers of all other fowles;
 hauing

hauling borrowed; nay, hauing bought the best Shippes out of other Trades to honour their voyage, and plumed euen *Constantinople* her selfe, of her shipping: therefore that men are entertained extraordinarily in this voyage, it is apparant one of the greatnesse of the Shipping; the entertainment of them increasing, it should be a consequent that Sea-men increase this way: But that wee may not by ambages triumph in their losse, or our calamities, wee see this way that our Shippes perish, and therefore our men they shrink. Nay, though Shippes come home, yet they leaue the men behind: so in this voyage, there is a two-fold way towards our want of Mariners.

In that Shippes, nay great Shippes, are extraordinarily subiect to bee cast away, and then there must bee losse likewise of men; In that though they come, they come home emptied of their men.

By the losse of foure Shippes, wee haue lost at the least foure hundred and fifty men: and in the adventure of some three thousand that haue bene employed since that voyage beganne, wee haue lost many about two thousand.

David refused to drinke of the Well of *Beth-leem*, which the strong men had fetched, when hee thirsted and longed, because it was the price of blood. This Trade, their commodities are at a farre deerer rate, being bought with so many mens liues.

But happily some will say that the greatest losse

of these men was at the beginning, when as all things are difficult: but since our men framed to a better composition of themselves, to the variety of this Climate, and heartned to the tediousnesse of this voyage, haue better endured and overcome those difficulties, and returned more comfortably. Heerein the latest voiaiges will informe vs best, and we will instance in the three last that haue made returnes.

The Trades
Increase.

The first was vnder Sir *Henry Middleton*, whose former gouernement in that kind of voyage, had approued his wisdom and moderation. His ship was that famous and infortunate vessell of eleuen hundred Tun; his company in that ship some two hundred and twenty men. After foure yeares errors vp and downe the sea, wherein hee vnderwent many constructions at home, and overcame strange difficulties abroad; hauing, to his eternall reputation of policy and courage, out-gone the perfidious Turke, and reuenged their barbarous wrongs, to the Marchants gaine, and the Kingdomes repute. After He; and his, had, I say, bene accompanied with many sorrowes, with labour, hunger, heate, sickenesse, and perill; That worthy Commander, with many a sufficient Mariner, with the whole number (ten excepted) of his liue *Cargazon*, perished in that *Acheldama*, in that bloody field of *Bantam*.

Nicholas Downton, the Vice-admirall of that Flecte returned, and of seuen he carried forth, brought home some twenty; the rest, their labours and liues were sacrificed to that implacable
East

East Indian Neptune: the *Darling* of that voyage is yet there, nor neuer will the maister, an approved sea-man, returne, with diuers others.

The second was that of *Captaine Saris*, and *Captaine Towerfon*, men formerly exercised in those iourneys, and therefore thought meete to command. Whether they were short of the opinion conceiued of them or no, I know not, if they were, I should attribute part of the losse of their men to their insufficiency, but that the destiny of that countrey chalengeth it all to it selfe. *Captaine Towerfon* who first returned, hauing left behinde him of some hundred and twenty, carried forth fourescore and five; and *Captaine Saris* of some 90 and odde not hauing brought home aboue two or three and twenty: the *Thomas* of that voyage, which went forth with some 60 men, was brought home by way of a wrecke, you know the destruction of men that name in port.

The third, that of *Captaine Tho. Bist*, Admirall of the Floete, a man whose former behaviour in sea-affaires, drew into that iourney with great expectation, and which is very seldome and hard, his carriage in this employment went beyond that great expectation of a reposed demeanour, indulgent to his men, vigilant in his charge, his courage like to his carriage, and his fortune aboue all, he checked the Indians, he comated the Portugals: those honour our King, these feare his forces, hee settled a trade in *Cambaya*, reduced things in order in *Bantam*, brought riches home for the Merchantes, and kept reputation for himselfe;

Captaine Permenton that escaping imprisonment at *Mocha*, iourneying in that vknown Countrey 15 miles by night, got to the sea-side, and finding a small Canow, made a saile of his shirt, and a mast of a stick, and so recouered the ships.

By staying an *Armenian* ship, wherein at least were some 400 men bound to the Indies, and commanding the Port, hee drew from the plainedealing, and made honorable conditions for the Marchants. Hee encountred foure Gallions, wherein might be some two thousand men.

yet for all this hee had, *Nemesis in dorſe*, the Indian vengeance haunted his ſhip euen to our coaſts; of ſome hundred and eighty men vnder him when he went forth, depriving him of one hundred and odde men for euer. Some ſoure or ſiue and twenty of the remainder are left, on the deſperate account of men, for the Countries Faſteridge, onely thirty are returned. In two great Sea-fights with the Portugals and their Gallions, which continued ſoure whole daies, hee loſt not ſoure men. It was not then the fortune of the warre; neither out of want of ought that viſuals and good gouernement could afford; imputations to ſome other voyages: Nor had the length of time any fault, part of others bane; he hauing made the voyage in ſhorter ſpace then any other ordinarily; the dogged Starre of thoſe Clymates, the ſtench of thoſe Countries were his fatality.

As one Swallow maketh no Summer, ſo it is not much to be maruailed, that in all theſe voyages ſome one Ship hath but bene ſcarred, and not elſe much hurt in this iourney: Shee indeed but euen ſeeing thoſe Coaſts, and preſently on ſo great a glut of our men and ſhips, with the which it ſeemeth the Sea and Land was then buſied and full: when as Captaine *Newport* returned with little loſſe and in ſhort time.

Now then as we haue ſaid before, that the Indian ſhippes die not the ordinary death of Shippes: and that we haue ſhewen likewise before, that men do die extraordinaryly in this voyage, which is almoſt incredible: they are diſtreſſed likewise after
their

their death, and that is very apparant by the meane account made to their heires of what they had in possession in their life time, by what should otherwise be due to them in their purchase, by the calamities of their wiues, children, and friends, after their death. Fabulous and phantasticall Legends haue beene made of the restless death of many concealed extortioners, and murderers, whose ghosts haue bene said to walke in paine and penance. On the contrary, how many liue bodies, indeed the true images of the deceased, complain on the death, call for the due of their friends: Fathers, Husbands, Children, Kinsfolkes, and Creditors: Poore *Rutlife*, *Lime-house*, *Blacke-wall*, *Shadwell*, *Wapping*, and other Sea-townes abroad can sensibly tell. The Merchants hee is at home, and therefore he cannot embezell the goods abroad; and it is likely that what is directly proted due is paid here to theirs. Then is the calamity of that journey more fearefull, because out of his owne ill Planet it maketh so many miserable. How this is recompeneed it is neither my purpose, nor my part to examine: For certaine there is want of Trade, the Hollander would grow greater, if hee had all this Trade in his own hands. The Kings customes are now aduanced: this way Shipwrights are set on worke, which must be maintained; and other Mechanical Trades liue hereby, with a number of poore busied. And surely he that would not haue the poore to liue, I would he might begge: And he that would not aduance the Kings profite in all liberall manner; and Marchandize is a faire meanes,

meanes, I would he might dye: and he that regardeth not his countries good, it is pitie hee was ever borne. I desire not, like a second *Phaeton*, to make a combustion. All that I would enforce at this time is, that in this trade our men are consumed, and thereby more want of mariners. Let the *Straights-men*, and the *Lisborne-merchants* complaine of their hinderance this way, and say their traffique before was more beneficiall by much, and more certaine to the Custome-house then the Indies be now. Let others report that the foundation of this trade was layd in the ruine of a *Carick* that *sir James Lancaster* took in the first voiage, and that the maine of this after-iollity proceeded of the forced trade driven with the *Mocha* Fleete by *Sir Henry Middleton*, whereby diuers durst not goe presently after to the *Straights*, as the *Angell*, and other shippes, out of rumour of reuenge for violence offered by our Indian men to the Turkes in the red sea. Let the comon people say that their commodities are vnecessary: aske the Tradesmen, nay all men, what they haue cheaper: looke into the price of victuals how it riseth out of their great prouisions. Let the whole land murmur at the transport of treasure, and bring in *Charles* the fifth his opinion, speaking to the Portugals of their trade to the East Indies, who said that they were the enemies to Christendome, for they caried away the treasure of Europe to enrich the heathen; Let go the speech of the small reliefe thereby to the poore, and they whom it doth concerne may suggest the Indian home state and particular profite

Wherein hee was his owne Trade-caruer out of tenne hundred thousand pounds worth of goods.

Hall Chron. An.
15. Hen. 8.

profite. Once I am sure, that as *Neposian* the Em-
perour sayd, Hee had rather saue one Citizew
then kill one thousand enemies; so his royall Ma-
iestie had rather haue his subiects, then custome
for them: and you see plainly, that his Maiesties
subiects, our country-men, fall this way, and this
way is want of mariners.

Greenland ships, which before I had forgotten,
entertaine some mariners, and helpe to breed o-
thers; as of late being fifteene saile, employ some
foure hundred men, and may breed of these some
fourescore, which help somewhat, and may be by
reasonable encouragement farre more benefici-
all, if it be more publique.

And thus wee haue runne ouer the materiall
trades state and condition in them of sea-men. In
all in generall we conceiue want, in regard of the
small increase of what is needefull to furnish this
great *Machine*, this goodly engine of our Sea-
state, either by supporting their owne members
(the *Newcastle* trade excepted) or all ioyned to-
gether, to make vp the great body of our lands
Navy: wimes that generall presse that was made
of men from all the coasts, to man the shippes
that went to attend that matchlesse pearle, that
peerlesse Princess the Lady *Elizabeth* her grace,
with her hopefull and happy mate, the illustrious
Palatine, at their departure; and our nakednesse
that would appeare if there were sudden occasi-
on to furnish some fixe of his Maiesties ships: all
which maketh for the furtherance of our propo-
sition of Fishing.

The third motive hereto was *want of Employment*.

As the Cosmographers in their Maps, wherein they haue described the habitable Globe, vse to set downe in the extremitie of their Cards, on vnknowne Regions and Climates, That beyond those places they haue noted there is nothing but sands without water, full of wilde beasts, or congealed seas, which no ship can saile, or *scithy- as* liue in: so may I write in the Map of employment, that out of it, without it, is nothing but sordide idlenes, base condition, filling the minde with a hundred Chymeras and grosse fantasies, and defiling both body and minde with dissolute courses and actions; like fat ground neglected, that bringeth forth a thousand sorts of weeds, or vnprofitable hearbs. And with this disease is our Land affected, our people infected; whereby so many come to an vntimely & reproachfull death in the Land, & many more liue so dissolutely, and so wickedly on the seas. I doe not thinke that in any two kingdomes in *Europe*, there are so many Iustized for Murderers and Felons yearly, as in *England*. And aboue all Nations we are most infamous for Pyracies; wherein, against the law of sea-robbers, or at least, besides ordinary example of any other Nation, we forbear not to prey on our owne Country-men; nay, wee forbear not our owne acquaintance. Sure the want of grace, and feare of God, is much in most of these: but that men should leaue their wiues, children, and family, and rebel against their owne Soueraignes *lawes*,

lawes, and make warre on all people, proceedeth more out of want of means, want of employment at home. Besides, how many that haue more grace, and the same wants, are straightned in their Fortunes, notwithstanding their abilities of body and minde, and are, as it were, damned to pueritie; and more then all these, that haue a little grace, and lesse meanes, that leade the loathsome life of begging?

Now, if the meanes may be found, nay, if the meanes long found already be offered vnto vs, to redeeme vs out of this disaster, why should wee not vnderstand them? why should we not apprehend them? why should we not be industrious in them? Wee are not those rebellious Israelites that could nor see the flowing Land, much lesse enjoy it: we haue this place in possession, and if my *Ephemerides* faile me not, I dare say, *Natum inde esse artem*, that shall not onely take away all those discontentes and miseries, that want of employment breeds in any of our infortunate countrey-men, but that shall also repaire our Nauie, breed sea men abundantly, enrich the subiect, aduance the Kings custome, and assure the kingdom; and all this in our owne Seas, by fishing, and especially out of Herring. Towards the which, apparant necessity hauing hitherto made vs the way, we are to perswade you to follow in it by the

Facility,
Profit, and
Vse of this Fishing.

The Facility, in that the means are in our owne hands.

The Place, our owne Seas.

The Art, well knowne.

The meanes in our owne hands, in that wee haue all things, that shall be vsed about this business, growing at home in our owne Land (Pitch and Tarre excepted) whereas the *Hollander*, hauing nothing growing in their owne Land for it, is faine to goe to fixe severall Countries, and those remote, and vnder diuerse Princes, to furnish themselves, and doe furnish themselves meerey with the barker of Fish and Herring taken out of our Seas.

Then the place is not farre remoued, if in our owne Seas, if in his Maiesties Dominions, on the coast of *England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, is this principall fishing: for by the report of many exercised in this mysteie, and the relation of two especially, painefull herein by their Treatises, *Hitchcockes* and *Gentleman*,

The Herrings first, and towards the ending of Summer, shoote our of the deepes on both sides of *Scotland* and *England*, and beginne to do first so, on the *Scotts* coasts at Midsummer; when is the first and worst fishing.

The second and best is about Bartholomew-tide, from *Scarbroogh* in *Yorkeshire* till you come to the *Thames* mouth.

The third from the *Thames* mouth through the narrow Seas, burnot so ceftayne, for that extreame weather maketh them shoote on both sides

306
fides of *Ireland*; likewise on the Coast of *Ireland* is good fishing for Herring, from *Michaelmas* to *Christmas*.

On the North-west Seas of *England*, ouer against *Carlisle*, about *Wirkentowne*, is good fishing for herring from *Bartholomew-tide* till foure score dayes after *Michaelmas*. So then it appeareth by these reports, that this fishing for Herring is especially on his Maiesties Dominions. And to this end aske the ancient custome of the *Hollanders* and *Flemming*, that before they beganne their fishing for Herring, craved leaue of *Scarborough* aforeseyd: which easily obtained, they then laid their Nets. And howsoeuer it pleaseth his Maiesty to allow of his royall Predecessours bounty, in tolerating the neighbour Nations to fish in his streames: yet other Princes take more straights courses. For whereas till *Christmas* on the coast of *Norway* called the *Mall Strand*, all strangers doe fish, as *Hittchecker* writeth; they then paid a *tenhends* on euery Last of Herring, to the King of *Denmarke*. And I can likewise remember, that certaine of our Marchants of *Hull* had their goods and Shippes taken away, and themselves imprisoned, for fishing about the Ward-house, and not paying the duty imposed on by the King of *Denmarke*.

The place, our Seas likewise, for other necessary and profitable fishing, on the Coast of *Lancashire* from *Easter* to *Midsummer*, for Cod, for Hakes, twixt *Wales* and *Ireland*, from *Whitsontide* vntill *Saint Iames-tide*, for Cod,

and Ling about *Padstow*, within the Lands end of *Seuerne*, from *Christmas* to middle Lent, and in seuen or eight seuerall places more about the Coasts, and within his Maiesties Dominions, the which is largely set downe by *Hitscockes*.

Now besides this fishing treasure lyeth easily to bee found in our owne Seas, what good Harbours siting thereto lye open to vs in our owne Coasts, as *Colchester*, *Harwich*, *Ipswich*, *Tarmouth*, with a number of other, set downe painfully by *Gentleman*, together with the commodities they affoord for Timber, Workemanship, furnishing, and harbouring Busses, Nets, and Men?

As the Hauens lye open to vs, as the Seas bee our owne, and as we haue all things almost siting for such a businesse at home, and naturally, so that nothing may bee wanting to vs but our selues; the Art is well knowne to vs likewise. Maisters for Busses may be had from *Tarmouth* and *Sould*, and the rest of the coasts downe the riuer. Vse maketh Fishermen, and these places affoord store of Seafaring men for the purpose. In *Orford* Hauen and *Alborough* be many good Fishermen, whose abilities exercised in Busses, would (by *Gentleman's* report) put downe the *Hollander*. The like may be sayd of *Sould*, *Dunwich*, *Walderfwich*, which breede Fishermen. In all these, and many other places, is this rich Art knowne, but not vsed. In all these, and all other, the *Hollanders* swimme like Elephants, we wading like Sheepe. We keep the Bankes and Shoales, when as they are in the depth.

Besides

2 Besides, to encourage vs the more, the charges are not great, the paines are not great, the time is not long, the hazard is nothing at all. This is very apparant, and exactly set downe in *Gentleman* his Treatise, whom I shall but obscure to contract; neither is he long.

The next motiue to this fishing, was that of profite; wherein if euer it were true, that a good cause maketh a good Orator, here is a subiect to enable all meane Rhetoricians. Euery man almost is taken with the attention to profite. Loue doth much, but Mony doth all. Here is money, he ere is profite in abundance, and diuers wates. In abundance, for that the whole charge of a Bussse, with all furniture and appurtenances, betweene thirty and forty Last, will cost about five hundred pounds: the charges for keeping her a whole summer at Sea, may be some three hundred three score and five pounds: the whole Summer filleth her three times, with making one hundred Last of barrells, amounteth to one thousand pounds; wherby, allowing one hundred pounds for weare of ships, and reparations of nets, there is gained five hundred sixtie five pounds by one Bussse in one yeare, and this is after ten pounds the Last, which was so rated in *Hitchbrakes* time, which is some thirty three yeres agoe; the *Hollander*, now, selling them for fiftene, twenty pounds, and vppward the Last, at *Danske*. Hence one may gather of the great gaine, that euen riseth to a priuate purse, by this fishing, with a small aduenture, Busses being the maine (and those likely likewise

That is, betweene sixtie and eightie tunne.

to continue, by Gods grace, some twenty yeares)
So then her charges returned for keeping her at
sea; the first yeare also she quitteth her own selfe;
and there is, I say, five hundred sixty five pounds;
as long as she liueth afterwards, *de clars*. I would
faine know, not desiring to be too curious in a
strange Common-wealth; but rather to inuite
my Countrey-men into this society, what Trade
in the Land did euer in his strength promise so
much; howsoeuer, neuer any, I am sure, perfor-
med so much, so easily, so continually.

When *Antiochus*, in his shew to *Hannibal* of
his glorious Army in battel range, his Elephants
being most richly adorned; and all his souldiers
in very braue and costly harnessse and abillments,
willing to draw some acknowledgement from
him of his power and strength; asked his opini-
on of it: the warlike souldier replied agayne,
That it was an Armie, able to satisfie the most
courageous enemy. No question, though the *Car-
thaginian* noted the people of towardise; yet it
would require great charges, so cost some blond,
to overcome such an Army.

In the best Trade in appaunce now that is
(and in those Countreies wherein there are infinite
riches) you see how remote it is; and with what
cost of purse, and losse of people followed; yet
without such satisfaction. Here is wealth enough
to satisfie the most thirsty thereof, without much
cost, without any spoile; even almost *Salmacida
spolia*, if not, *sine sudore*, *sine sanguine*, and not for
a time, but permanent. All other Trades are fer-
ched,

ched, as it were, out of a Well, out of the Deepe,
I meane from farre, heere is a meere spring which
is in superſicie hard by vs, out of our owne inex-
hauſtible Sea, from the euerlaſting ſtore of Her-
ring, whence onely the *Hollander* reapeth a milli-
on of gold yearly; beſides, the moſt gaineſull
fiſhing with other veſſels for Cod and Ling. *Hitch-
cockes* long agoe diſcouered the ſame, his booke
is extant; and fore-named *Gentleman* hath very
plainely ſet downe; and in very probable and par-
ticular manner diſcloſed the myſteries thereof.
And the cōcept the *Hollanders* haue of it, calling
it their *Chiefeſt Trade and gold-Mine*: and the con-
fidence they haue in it, as laying out their chil-
drens money giuen them by friends, in aduentu-
ring in Buſſes, and fathers likewiſe putting in their
childrens portions into Buſſes; preſume of the
encreaſe that way, and ſo proportion a ſumme cer-
taine out of that gaine, in a certaine time; as alſo
that there is for Orphanes laid out, and ſo encrea-
ſing that way for the maintainance of them. Here
then we may get treaſure in aboundance, and cer-
tainely: and beſides the gaining of it, we ſhall ſtay
the vnnaturall ryde of the departure and transpor-
tion of our gold; a miſchiefe, which notwithstanding
our royall King was ſenſible of, in the raiſing
of it, yet it ſtill departeth with *Veſtigia nulla re-
troſum*, out of the lazy and diſgracious Merchan-
dize of our Coaſters, that giue away our coine to
the ſtranger for our owne fiſh. Which vnſeaſona-
ble and vnprofitable humour of *Cauponacion*, is this
way to be diuerted onely.

But some will say, that our men are not so apt, nor disposed thereto: which cannot be, in regard of the store of Fishermen that our Coasts nourisheth, which liue as hardly, and take as great paines in their fashion; onely wanting the vse of Busses, and seeme to reioice at the name of Busses, and may on very good reason; for that this Busse-fishing is more easy then any other kind of fishing, which now wee vse in Crayers and Punts, as being armed this way better against all weathers, which other suffer and perish in, in other vessels yearly. And as their prouisions are better, and the dangers lesse, so their paines are likewise lesse.

Againe, who will not bee exceedingly encouraged with the benefite of such gaine, in so honest a manner, when once the sweete is tasted of, when as otherwise our Countymen runne such laborious and desperate courses, especially out of want.

Others will say that our Land will not vtter them in any quantity, in regard that the feeding on her-ring, and fish, doth not taste vs, nor is so receiued as amongst those *Holland* and *Sealand* Mermaids. And sure, if those necessary Lawes provided by our aduised State, for the keeping of fish daies cleane through our Land were better obserued, it would be more wholesome for our bodies, and make much for the aduancing of our fish, & plenty of other victuals; besides the deere nesse of our fish victuall, which more hurteth our purse then our appetites, for that the price is within this 20. yeares almost trebled, which indeed maketh the true

true distast as all Householders finde, and thereon
 feede their households with flesh, and otherwise;
 this fish victuall being now obtained by Merchan-
 dize, which indeed is our owne staple commo-
 dity, whereon groweth this penury to the poore,
 this great price to others, this disvse to all, and in
 these the Kings, the Kingdomes losse. Yet notwith-
 standing there is such quantity of herring, besides
 other fish, consumed amongst vs, that *Hitchcockes*
 alloweth 10000 Lasts for our prouision of her-
 ring to be spent here in the Realme; so that it would
 saue at home 100000 pounds of treasure, which,
 to our shame and losse, the *Hollanders* carry
 away, euen for our owne prouision; besides, that
 prouision is of the worst, such as they call Roope-
 sicke, & such as they are forbidden to bring home.
 Now to be serued of our worst, whereas we might
 be our owne caruers, and to giue our gold for that
 we may haue for nothing; iudge of the losse, of
 the indignity. And as wee may easily remedy this
 by our owne industry, so we cannot otherwise
 excuse the fault: our gracious Prince, no que-
 stion, being ready to assist vs herein by the same
 fauourable authority which other Trades for their
 benefite taste most plentifully of, by forbidding
 the sale and vtering of herring to his loyall sub-
 iects by any forrainer or stranger whatsoeuer.
 And in *Holland* it is not lawfull for them to buy
 any of our Herring, if they bee brought thither;
 nay, if wee bring any thither they are burned. Be-
 sides what other effects of his incomparable cle-
 mency would blesse our industries heerein, hee

1399 the Art
 of making
 cloth, being
 growne to
 good perfecti-
 on, King *Henry*
 the 4. first pro-
 hibited the in-
 uention of
 forraine-made
 cloth.

being Lord *Paramount* of these Seas where this fishing food groweth, and which now is taken by strangers? and therefore hee would not questionlesse allow strangers to eate vp the foode that was prouided for the children; the crummes we would not enuy them; though wee are now fed vnder their Table.

Now farther it may be alleaged, that we can vtter no such quantity, nor can affoord no such pennyworth. For the first, that must arise out of our diligence. No question we once attaining the Art of the Flemish vsage of these Herring, they will bee in as great estimation as the Hollanders, in *Normandy, Nants, Burdeaux, Rochell*, and other such Countries; for which, returne is made of Wine and Woad, for which is alwaies paid ready gold, with a number of other commodities: They will bee in as great estimation in the East Countries, *Renel, Rie, Russe, Danske, Poland, Denmarke*, the returnes whereof are set downe in *Gentleman*. And the quantity of Herring that these fore-named Countries consume is infinite. Therefore though the Hollanders spend more Fish and Herring by much in their Countries then wee doe, yet it is their forraine Trade with all other Nations that is their *Basis*; else they could neuer employ so many Shippes, nor gaine such wealth, or get such strength thereby. And in all these places wee can and doe Trade, and all their returnes wee neede and vse, and therefore may vtter them in as great a quantity as they doe.

Then

Then for the affoording of Herring and Fish as good a rate as they can, let any consider of the likelihood in our behalfe. First it standeth with reason, if wee haue the like vessels, wee can goe with as few men: and our fishermen on the Coast, by diuers reports, can liue as hardly as they. And let any iudge of the hardnesse, when the principall time of fishing for Herring is in September and October, and a sixe weekes time, and they are almost in sight of our owne Coasts; and besides good prouision of butter and cheese and Beere, they haue the plenty of the sea-fish: then this way wee may affoord as good peny-worths as they. But I goe further, and say that we haue great vantages of them.

The Seas be our owne, therefore wee iourney not so farre as the Hollander doth, whereby likewise our trauaile and charge must bee lighter: our ports, harbours and roades be at hand; nay, which is more, all *utensiles* and appurtenances belonging to shipping, as is before shewed (Pitch and Tarre excepted) are found in our owne land; whereas they with great cost and paines & hazard fetch them from sixe seuerall places. So then wee shall bee able to affoord better cheape then the Hollanders; and so wee may sell when they cannot, and so the *English* shall and may weary them, and weare out those floutes wherewith our poore Fisher-men are scorned. For if they bee put by the vttering of their Herrings abroad, they will bee driuen to leaue their great ships, and fish in smaller vessels neere the

You English!
wee will make
you glad to
weare our old
shooes.

shore to serue their owne turnes, as heretofore they haue caused vs to doe; when as likewise on euery tempest they openly triumph ouer vs, for not taking the blessings of God powred into our lappes.

These hinderances objected taken away, wee may now resort againe to the sweete fountaine of profite: which besides that it watereth our priuate estates with the continuall spring of great gaine, keepeth in our treasure, which exceedingly now wasteth, bringeth in all commodities that either the East and North Countries, *France*, or *Flaunders* affords euen for this barter; it runneth into the sea of the Kings custome: the venting onely of tenne thousand last of Herring beyond sea, commeth to fise thousand pounds after the rate of the ordinary poundage, besides the custome of Cod and Ling, very neere as valuable as the benefit of Herring, the particular view wherof is set downe by him whom I haue so often named, and in whose booke you may see the greatnesse of the custome amounting to about 50000 pound sterling, that accrueth to those Countries out of this fishing Trade. And yet all this to them is nothing: their keeping in their treasure, their carrying away our treasure, their abundance with all other commodities, their greatnesse of their custome this way, is nothing in regard of their profit, honor, safety, that their increase of shipping, increase of Mariners this way begetteth to themselues, amongst all nations, to their state.

The life of the sea is in shipping, nay one may say

say to ships, *Mare vin est mare, vos estis mare.* The beauty of the sea is in shipping: and sure the Poets affirming *Venus* to be the daughter of the sea, might meane a shippe by her. For *hec una Venus omnium surripuit Veneres:* and this little land of the *Hollanders*, exceeded in quantity by *Norfolke* and *Suffolke*, hath gotten this sea, hath gained this *Venus*; *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Spaine*, for shipping and sea-faring men, not answerable to them; and all spawned out of fish and fishing.

There hath beene numbred in sight two thousand saile of Busses, and other good vessels, gone out to sea at once of the *Hollanders*: and there hath beene found (by computation) some thirty seven thousand Fishermen in diuers sorts of vessels at one time employed herein. Hence proceede their great vndertakings, and prodigious aduenturing to all places: hereby they out-goe vs, and ouer-bear all trades where euer they come. Wee thinke the West-Indie gold to be the cause of the pride & presumption of the *Spaniards*: we may assure our selues, that our North-Indies counteruaile that treasure, and are the onely confidence of the *Hollander*; even by breeding sea-men, and increasing of shipping in that aboundance, as that hereby they both swarme euery where, *France*, *Spaine* and the East Countries are full of their shipping. Hence they fetch our coales, and carry them abroad; from *Norway* and *Danske* they bring vs all commodities, and carry forth ours, at a farre better rate then we can our selues: they haue filled *Moscouie*, whence we are emptied, with thither shipping,

shipping; and the *Straights* abound with them, once our possession. They go into, nay they arme in the West Indies where we may not bee scene; and in the East Indies they haue had long settled factories before vs, and haue foure men to one of ours there, and goebeyond as farre, besides the number in store of goodly shipping; Whereby, as they hinder our trade, so they forbear not (which I cannot but write with stomacke) the honour of our King and kingdome, as presuming somtimes to call themselues *English*, and pretend Embassage, and presents from his Maiesty. Which they did to the King of *Siam*: in other places calling the Crowne and State of *England* into comparison; which made the King of *Achem* aske captaine *Best*, whether the King of *England*, or the King of *Holland*, were the greater Monarke.

Besides, what an infinite number of shippes and men of warre haue they alwayes in a readinesse at home? And as the In-keeper of *Chalois* sayd to his guest, admiring *tantam ferculorum varietatem*, It was with art all cookt out of porke; this their store, this their abundance, is raised all out of fishing. Who then would not be moued? Who would not be stirred vp therewith? Who would not goe a fishing? You see what want wee haue of shipping, what want we haue of mariners, what discouragements we haue in trades, what wants our men are in. When *Naaman* the *Sirian* complained to *E-lizeus* of his leprosie, he was bid wash himselfe in *Jordan* seuen times. Hee looked for other miraculous courses to be taken by the Prophet, and could hardly

hardly be perswaded thereto, because *Abna* and *Pharphar* (floods of *Damascus*) were better. *Naaman* was a Heathen, and had neuer any experience of Gods *Iorden*: yet hee was in the end perswaded: To supply our wants, to satisfie our hunger, to heale our diseases, there is not a riuer, but a Sea, shewen vs, and that not in another kingdom, but in our owne; wee are but bidden goe and take fish out of it. We are Christians, and it is God that hath provided this remedy: and we see by experience no water like ours, and wee see our neighbours from euery place resorting thereto, and healing themselues thereby. You see how it concerneth vs; let vs in the end likewise be perswaded. What the number is of our Sea-men, bred and employed by all sorts of Sea-trades, (our petty fishings excepted) may easily be ghest at; and whatsoever it may amount to. If out of our whole Land there be but foure hundred Busses built, and set forth, of seuentie tunne the peece, there are in two yeares nine thousand Mariners more then was in the Land before: let men of experience and state iudge of the proportion by the way of comparison; euery one can perceiue the increase simply. Besides, by the report of some of our best Mariners, these thus bred, proue not onely equall, but better able then any bred otherwise, for Sea-affaires and publicke seruice.

On this publik profit of fishing thus spread abroad the maintenance of Hauens and Hauen-townes in *England* besides, haue no small dependencie, and are so materiall to the land, so plainly vnder-

Good of all his Maiesties subiects; and so well wished to by *Fishecockes* and *Gentlemen*, that it is enough for me but to poynt at them: we all know the vse of them: they shew the decay; and this Art, the reparation and maintenance of them.

The vse of this fishing is implied much in the profite, but more eminent by the consideration againe of the infinite number otherwise of idle people, & out of imployment. Onely by this Art, it is reported not one goeth a begging in all the *Low Countries*; and what a number of people haue wee, that, now destitute of meanes, may this way haue a calling? It is a grievous sin, Idleness, and bringeth forth, as we see, horrible effects: to get a liuing by the sweat of our brows, is the ordinance of God, & this way there is a recompence. There were found in *Yarmouth* the last yeere, three or foure hundred, and those of honest disposition, that wanted means: & how many hundred more are there in other places that wold gladly be thus vsed? *Fishecockes* alloweth to euery one in this employment twenty pounds yearely, besides his diet, for his reward, a good fauour to honest men that now haue no meanes; and this onely out of two voyages for Herring. A number of Carpenters and Shipwrights shalbe set a work, Coopers busied, numbers of people making lines, ropes, cables, dressers of hempe, spinners of thrid, makers of Nets, bred; many salt-houses set vp, besides what store of poore people, all along on the sea coasts, which are now very poore and idle in *England* and *Wales*, to be vsed in splitting of fish, washing of fish, packing, salting, canying and re-carrying

carrying of fish. And on these foresaid occupati-
ons depend an infinite number of seruants, boyes
& daily labourers, for the vse of things needfull.
Nilus, whose fertility is enuied, affoordeth not so
many sorts of fish, of monsters, as this fishing en-
tertaineth sorts of people: which humbly com-
mitting to the high disposer of all hearts, & to the
due consideration therby of his ministers here on
earth, I will leaue further to enlarge; and shut vp
this abrupt discourse with the allusion of that of
Basil to this sea-businesse, *Putei dum hauriuntur spe-*
ciosiores.

Now for a Corollary to all these imperfect lines:
whereas in the superficial survey of want of ship-
ping, we find most of our sea-trades either decay-
ing, or at a stay, let me out of themselves, without
offence, propound the consideration of one re-
medy thereto; euen by a *freedom of Traffique* for all
his Maiesties subiects to all places. Hereby his ma-
iesties customes will increase, the navy & sea-men
will receiue nourishment out of more employ-
ment, the whole incorporation of merchants reap
comfort, in that they may communicate with all
aduentures, and the vniuersal body of the subiects
of the land content, in that they may become mer-
chants; being very ready in this aduenturous world
to make new discoueries: whereas now otherwise
merchandize, sorting & seled in companies, con-
fineth merchants into those limits that priuate or-
ders tie them in, so that they may not helpe them-
selues through any discouragements in one trade,
but by sure and submission of themselves to the o-
ther; though, I say, their trades faile them, and o-
ther

ther haue too much: nor may any else of the king-
dome come amongst them, though neuer so able
and well disposed, vnlesse they come in on such
conditions as the victor pleaseth to propound.
A thing in ordinary sence somewhat harsh to fel-
low-Subiects and equall Citizens in this great
Monarchie, to be so seruiceable tyed and subiect
one vnto the other; and the rather for that those
priuiledges by the indulgencie of the Prince be-
ing granted as a reward to some for their indu-
stries, and exemplary to others encouragements,
are strictly vsed to the eternall benefit of a few,
and the wrong of all the residue.

The *French* company manifesteth this plainly,
which if it had continued, (and it beganne but
the other day) had vndone all the *Westerne*
men.

The *Moscouie* company declareth the same, as
being granted on condition of seruing his Maie-
sty of all materials (as Flaxe, Oyle, Waxe, Tallow,
Cordage) belonging to shipping: whereas now
it is supplied by strangers euen ten for one ship,
and those double our burdens; and notwithstan-
ding they doe not performe; and haue let fall
their trade, yet none may enter but on their condi-
tions.

The *Greenland* company, out of the pretence of
their first Whale-hunting, keepe all Fishermen,
notwithstanding they knew and vsed those seas,
from further resort thither: and some Marchants
of *Hull* were taken by them in that iourney, and
brought backe; notwithstanding, as I am infor-
med, those countrey-men found it first.

The

The *Virginia* Company pretend almost all that *Maine* twixt it and *New found Land* to bee their fee-simple, whereby many honest and able minds disposed to aduenture are hindred, and stopped from repairing to those places they either knew or would discouer vnfound euen for fishing.

The *East India* men, not able to furnish those places they resort to, keepe out other from coming amongst them, and to looke into those parts they know not, and would giue out of their largenesse and riches entertainment to all the Marchants in the Land. Besides, how tedious and costly they, and all other Companies, make it to their owne Associates, when as out of orders, and cause of vpholding their Trade, men can neither dispose of their owne as they would, nor haue the benefite vnder a long time: Besides, how priuate do they, and other Companies, make it, when as out of orders and mainetaining their Trade, how plentifully soeuer the commodities are brought in, and at what aduantage soeuer they buy them, they will bee sure to keepe vp the price, either by sending forth most part of the commodities abroad, or else by buying all others into their hands; that other is hard for the owner sometimes, but he doth it in his owne wrong; but to the buyer this is alwaies iniust for that he suffereth against his will, the Common wealth being made priuate suffereth by all; this, that, the first and all the more discontentful, in that besides that al other Nations resort freely to all those places whence they keepe out their owne Country-men, the like

Hal. Ann. 15.
Hen. 8.

Ann. 7.
Iacob. 6.

fashion of Companies and Societies is not vsed
in all Christendome else; it being lawfull and vsu-
all to all other amongst themselues, promiscu-
ously to frequent and communicate with places,
and Trades, one by the other. Nay, this separation
of Trading, and excepting of subiects from places,
betweene diuers Princes that had but peace
one with the other, was so admired and disallowed
of, formerly, that *Charles* the 5 Emperour, being
moued by the Portugals, being vnder their owne
absolute King then, to forbear the East-Indie
Trade, because they had found it; answered, That
hee had peace with them, and therefore he would
haue Trade with them; for they were not his
friends, but his enemies, that would hinder him of
it. How much more we, murmuring at this ini-
quity, may affirme that we are all *Britaines*, all sub-
iects to one royall King, all combined together in
one naturall league, and therefore not to be bar-
red from Trading equally to all places; which his
gracious Maiesty, together with the whole assent
of the high Court of Parliament, openly pro-
fesseth, when as there was enacted a free liberty for
all his Maiesties Subiects, to Trade into the Do-
minions of *Spaine, Portugall, and France*, with most
sufficient reasons therfore, for the increase of ship-
ping, mariners, thousands of Handicraftes men,
of prices of their owne commodities and aug-
mentation of them, together with the plenty of
straine commodities, & a cheapnesse of them, &
the bettering of his Maiesties customes. No one
man euer inuented all Sciences, nor any Marchant
found all places: yet they make a compensation

one to another: Society first beganne, and knowledge and civility, by communication. But if the world in his infancy had bene resolved to haue held priuate what they had in possession, and to haue concealed what they knew, there had not onely bene no civility, but no society. Yet as the first maintainers of society had their honour, the first inventors of Sciences and Arts their rewards, and in all well-disposed States, the industries of those that do benefite them, haue their encouragements: so is not this my proposition of free Trade otherwise entertained, then that there should bee a due respect had of all worthy aduenturers, an especiall consideration of the charges and hazard of the first discoverers: which the solertious Hollander examples vs, by forbidding their owne Subjects to trade to those places which some particular purse hath, or shall, finde out, before that the first Founders haue receiued reasonable benefite of their paines and charges, allowing them some fixe returnes to their owne priuate aduentures, before any else set thitherward. If those aduentures or returnes were encreased here for the Finders content, and profit, there is no man would grudge it. But to keepe others out for euer, vnlesse they pay, and submit themselues according to their order, and to their gouernement, or vnder the presence of one place found to include more then was euer meant, seemes very iniurious. Againe, my Proposition is not any way so tumultuous, as that thereby I would exclude all order and forme of gouernment, in Trades, or otherwise to intend a promiscuous kind of calling, or rather confusion
of

of all sorts. Who knoweth not that the Commonwealth consisteth, *Non ex medico, & medico; sed ex medico, & Agricola?* as also that there must be an Oeconomicall and discrete partition and proportion among the members; Diuers trades, to maintaine the generall bodie Commerce? I haue onely poynted at some aberrations, but as the Nouice, traueilling through strange Countries, *Tapmando*, or *tanquam canis ad Nilum*. The prosecuting of this Argument would draw on a larger discourse then all the whole former, and would then exceed a Corollary, and detain the Reader too long. Neither like I the issue of meddling, when men tire themselues with controuling of publique matters, yet many times cannot manage their owne affaires. I make no intrusion into Merchants Mysteries, neither desire to pry into the States seerecie. It was a foolish complaint of the Poet, *Cur aliquid vidi?* it is much more for me to say, *Cur aliquid scripsi?* I am so far from giuing any cause of publique offence, that I would not iustly prouoke any priuate person. I was borne in the Cittie, and liue amongst Sea-men. And as some Almanack-makers, when they pretend exactnesse in their Calculations, though they doe but roue, vse to appropriate their obseruations to the place they liue in: so, I writing with the same knowledge, would say I desire good to the Meridian of these two places; notwithstanding, as they say also, These may serue alike to all the Land.

FINIS.

